

Press Release

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All new Volvo XC90 takes SUV-segment to next level

For immediate release

The Volvo Car Corporation today releases the first official pictures of its new SUV, the Volvo XC90.

The passenger car-based, all wheel drive, Volvo XC90 is the top of the line model in the Swedish carmaker's new XC-range.

"Being first in the next generation of SUV's allows us to set new standards for safety and functionality in the segment," says Hans Wikman, Project Director.

The Volvo XC90 will be unveiled at the Detroit Motor Show on 7 January 2002.

There is no doubt to the observer that the new XC90 is a true modern Volvo in every respect. Trademark design elements such as the V-shaped hood and the pronounced shoulders, have been combined with a powerful stance and modern design featuring gently rounded, elegant lines. "We wanted the car to look masculine and confident, but not macho" explains Peter Horbury, Vice President and Chief Designer.

When Volvo Cars launches a new car model, one aim is always to reinforce the company's leading position in the field of safety. The Volvo XC90 is no exception - in terms of either active or passive safety. For instance, the new XC90 showcases a range of technologically advanced new solutions in the important area of roll-over protection.

The functional design in combination with efficient packaging and transverse engines gives the new Volvo XC90 the necessary preconditions for a high degree of flexibility and versatility. Up to seven people can ride in comfort and traditional Volvo safety in forward-facing seats.

The problem of vehicle compatibility - where a SUV collides with a lower conventionally shaped passenger car - was another high-priority area throughout the development of the Volvo XC90.

The Volvo XC90 can be specified with a choice of 5-cylinder and 6-cylinder petrol engines. Both engines are turbocharged.

Production of the new car will start in 2002 at the Torslanda factory in Goteborg on Sweden's west coast, where Volvo Cars is concentrating the production of all its larger models. The North American market is expected to account for about 65 percent of total Volvo XC90 sales.

Volvo Cars of North America, LLC (VCNA), is an affiliate of Ford Motor Company's Premier Automotive Group based in Irvine, CA. And, is a subsidiary of the Volvo Car Corporation of Goteborg, Sweden, which will be celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2002. VCNA provides marketing, sales, parts, service, technology and training support to Volvo automobile retailers in the U.S., Canada, Mexico and Puerto Rico.

The 2002 Volvo automobile line includes the sporty S60 and the new S60 AWD, the flagship S80 luxury sedan, the versatile V70 wagon and rugged Cross Country, C70 Coupe and convertible, and the compact S40 and V40 models. www.volvocars.com

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